

**All
Hands**

HERALD

October 2006

DEPARTMENT OF FIRE SERVICES • STOW, MASSACHUSETTS

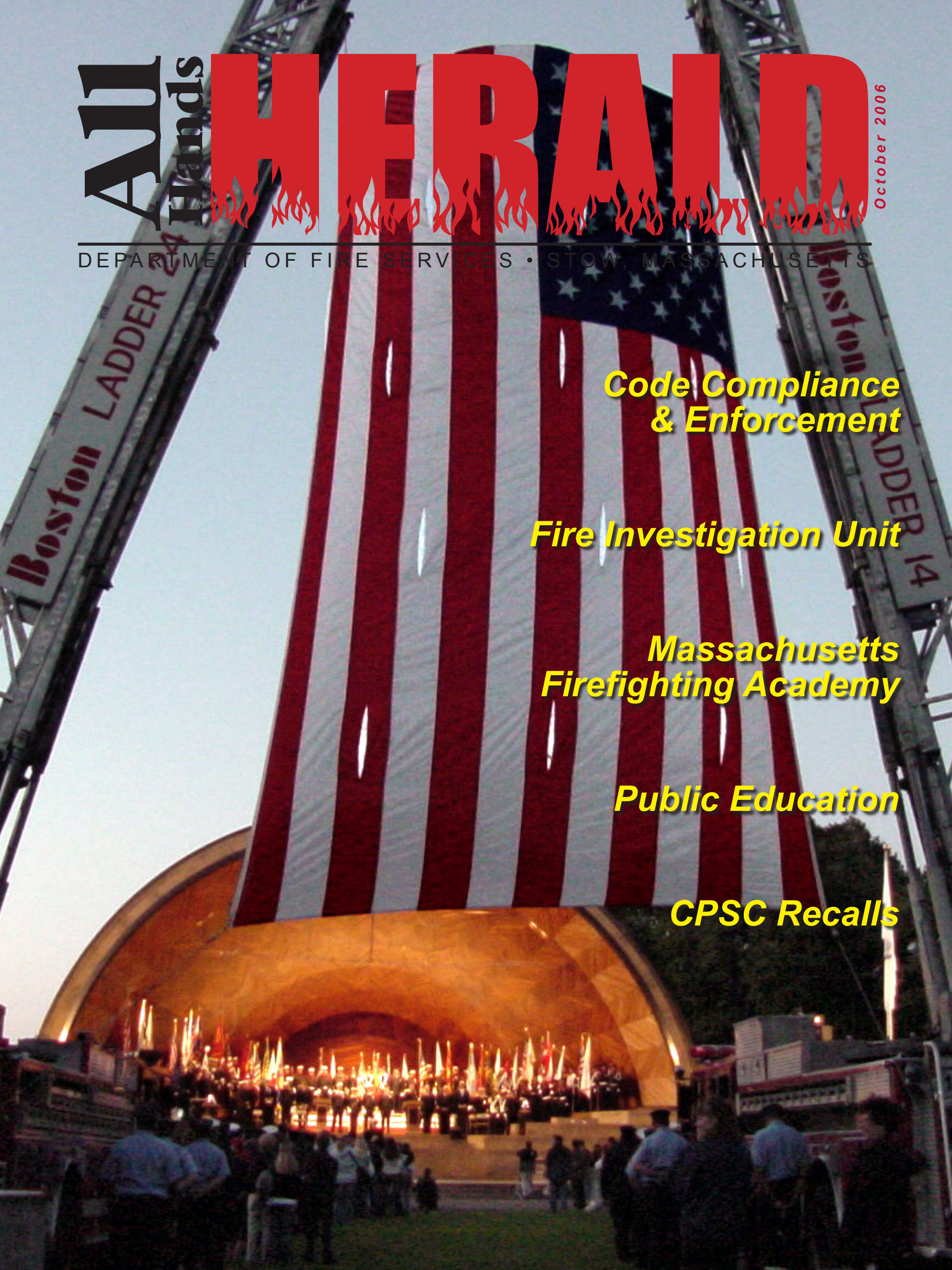
**Code Compliance
& Enforcement**

Fire Investigation Unit

**Massachusetts
Firefighting Academy**

Public Education

CPSC Recalls



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About the *All Hands Herald*

The *All Hands Herald* is published quarterly by the Department of Fire Services in January, April, July and October. The newsletter is meant to incorporate the traditional fire service meaning- all hands working to extinguish the fire. In the case of our newsletter, all hands includes the DFS staff providing each of you with information, training and assistance in dealing with the fire service issues which confront all levels of the fire service.

We hope that you enjoy our new look and feel and we encourage you to let us know how you like the *All Hands Herald* and what we can do to make it even more useful to you – our dedicated fire service members and customers. If you have suggestions, ideas, questions or want to make a contribution to the *All Hands Herald*, contact Jennifer Mieth at 978-567- 3381 or Donna Nelson at 978-567-3149. Jennifer.Mieth@state.ma.us or Donna.Nelson@state.ma.us

Sue Peltier and Barry Hyvarinen are the talented contributing photographers; Judy O'Brien is the keen-eyed copy editor; and Jeff Harris is the graphic artist who pulls it all together. ♦

From the Fire Marshal



Firefighters across Massachusetts are gearing up for fire prevention week, October 8-14, which has really turned into fire prevention month in order to visit as many classrooms and participate in as many community events as possible. As a Scottish Fire Chief recently said, "Firefighters are well aware that fire prevention and spreading the safety message is not a minor part of their job – it ranks alongside fire-fighting as a core, statutory duty." This sense of duty to prevent fires as the most effective way of putting them out is shared by firefighters on this side of the Atlantic. In October, firefighters launch their year-long collaboration with local schools through the S.A.F.E. Program; participate in community events and safety days, and reach out to older adults. We have again partnered with Papa Gino's Inc. For the 13th year, they will be sponsoring open houses at local fire departments and promoting fire safety in their stores throughout the month of October.

Fire-Safe Cigarettes

The Department of Fire Services

has joined with other members of the Massachusetts fire service in advocating for and seeing enacted several pieces of landmark legislation that affect the safety of the citizens of Massachusetts. With the help of the Coalition for Fire-Safe Cigarettes, the Fire-Safe Cigarette bill became law this summer. Effective January 1, 2008 all cigarettes sold in Massachusetts will have to meet these standards, which are essentially the same as the New York standards. Massachusetts joins a select group of states and Canada in passing similar standards including neighboring New Hampshire and Vermont. Cigarettes that will self-extinguish unless air is drawn across them will go a long way towards reducing cigarette-caused fires.

Nicole's Law

Also passed and implemented this year was "Nicole's Law" requiring carbon monoxide alarms in every residence with a potential source of carbon monoxide. This will be the first full winter where it will be in effect. I believe we will see many lives saved by carbon monoxide alarms and I would ask for your help in tracking these successes.

School Fire Report

This fall a new school fire reporting law will take effect that requires schools to notify the local fire department of every fire on school grounds. This will help the fire department to more readily identify children with a firesetting problem and get them the help they need sooner. It will also help the schools protect their students, staff and buildings; all major community assets.

MFA Announces New Physical Fitness Program for Recruit Firefighters

By Bruce Gauvin,
Recruit Program Coordinator

The Massachusetts Fire Training Council (MFTC) voted to accept a proposal for a new mandatory physical fitness program for recruits at their June meeting. The new program applies to firefighters in the 12-week Basic Recruit Training Program. Implementation of this new program will commence with recruit class 174 scheduled to begin in early October of this year.

The goal of the fitness program is to provide the new recruit with a level of fitness to ensure they're capable of safely meeting the physical rigors of training. A healthy and physically fit firefighter is not only superior in job performance, but also enjoys a reduced risk of injury. The involvement and partnership between several agencies brought the program to fruition. The physical training activities are consistent with those outlined in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts – Human Resources Division's (HRD) Physical Ability Test Preparation Guide. Fitness activities are based on the four components of

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Passage of "Safe Cigarette Bill"



On July 8, 2006, Massachusetts became the sixth state in the country to require tobacco manufacturers to sell only reduced ignition propensity ("RIP") or "fire safe cigarettes." The bill was approved by the House and Senate and signed by Governor Romney on July 8, 2006. The law takes effect January 1, 2008 in order to clear the current inventory of cigarettes.

This legislation was the culmination

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MA Fire Safety Act of 2004

We continue to implement aspects of 2004's comprehensive Massachusetts Fire Safety Act. This law was extensive and has several components, most notably the requirement for sprinklers in certain bars and nightclubs. May 2006 was the deadline for these establishments to submit plans for the sprinkler installation to the local fire department. The non-criminal ticketing procedure is another critical component of this legislation that is having a major impact on fire and building code enforcement. This is streamlining the code enforcement process and raising the seriousness with which fire and building code violations are viewed as the fines are steeper and more certain. The requirement for a local hearings officer assures both parties due process and a quicker process that is not mired in the courts where the case would have a lower priority. Going to court remains an option, but only the more serious or egregious cases are getting there. DFS code enforcement officials have written tickets totaling \$10,000 in the first six months.

Excellence in Public Safety Award

Public Safety Secretary Robert Haas presented a meritorious citation to the Department of Fire Services staff on September 19, 2006 for their work in developing and implementing the Massachusetts Fire Safety Act (Chapter 304 of the Acts of 2004) and the carbon monoxide law and assisting the Board of Fire Prevention Regulations in developing the technical regulations to implement it.

Stow Expansion

The DFS building project is a long-term one that continues to move forward smoothly. We have an excellent team with the newly hired contractor, Department of Capital Asset Management (DCAM) and the architect. Construction is scheduled to begin in the spring of 2007.

Residential Sprinklers

Through a federal grant, DFS has acquired a new combination fire safety house and residential sprinkler demonstration trailer. The Fire Chiefs' Association of Massachusetts (FCAM) is considering passage of local option residential sprinkler legislation as a priority this year. We hope to use the sprinkler demonstration trailer to educate legislators, homebuilders, local officials, building and even fire officials, if need be, on the value of residential sprinklers. We have the technology to protect our homes, our possessions and our loved ones from the tragedy of fire by installing residential sprinklers as easily as we install smoke alarms, electricity, telephone, and wall-to-wall carpeting in newly built homes.

HazMat

The regional Hazardous Materials Response Teams have bravely faced the new challenges of responding to unknown substances and being prepared for a biological, chemical or radiological threat. The HazMat teams provide such an important part in supporting our local communities. It would be exorbitantly expensive for every town to have their own highly trained and equipped hazmat team, but the regional approach serves everyone well. The regional HazMat teams will receive \$1.9 million in homeland security grant funds through the Regional Homeland Security Councils this year. The funds will be used to support and sustain capability, to improve training, team member safety, incident response and detection capabilities.

Never Forget

While we prepare to respond to future acts of terrorism, we also took some time to reflect on the victims of acts of terrorism as we faced the fifth anniversary of September 11, 2001. I would like to thank Father Larry Provenzano and the Massachusetts Corps of Fire Chaplains and all the

fire service organizations for coordinating the moving Sunset Service in remembrance of the firefighters who lost their lives on September 11, 2006. The families of the thousands who died that day are in our thoughts as they remember and go on without their loved ones. ♦

BFPR Creates Additional Carbon Monoxide Regulations

After months of subcommittee work and consultation with stakeholders, the Board of Fire Prevention Regulations (BFPR) promulgated additional regulations on the requirement for carbon monoxide (CO) alarms at its September 7, 2006 meeting. The board developed initial regulations on carbon monoxide alarms in one- and two-family homes and multi-family dwellings quickly after "Nicole's Law" was passed. It took longer to research the technical issues around adding carbon monoxide alarms in buildings with complex heating, ventilation and alarm systems.

What Types of Buildings Are Affected?

These supplemental regulations govern other types of residential buildings where people generally do not live permanently, such as hotels and motels, hospitals, nursing homes, and prisons. The new regulations will also affect day care facilities licensed by the Department of Early Education and Care; home day cares were already covered by the previous regulations. The previous regulations will govern small hotels, those with six or fewer rooms like a bed and breakfast. Only buildings with a potential source of carbon monoxide are affected.

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Fire Investigation Unit

FIU NEWS

Cause of Truck Fire Killing Dogs Called Electrical

State Fire Marshal Stephen D. Coan and Lowell Fire Chief William Desrosiers announced the cause of the August 14, 2006 tractor-trailer fire that killed approximately 60 dogs was electrical in nature. Investigators have determined that the heat source was in the area of the ultra-violet lighting inside the trailer, which is used to kill bacteria in the trailer. The fire occurred on Route 495 south near the Lowell Connector.

The cause and origin of the fire was jointly investigated by the members of the Lowell Fire Department, the Lowell Police Department and State Police assigned to the Office of the State Fire Marshal. The fire investigative team was called to assist State Police from the Andover barracks and the Commercial Vehicle Enforcement Section and other agencies charged with investigation into the overall incident.

Hudson Auto Sales Fire Ruled Electrical

State Fire Marshal Stephen D. Coan and Hudson Fire Chief John Blood announced the most probable cause of the July 22, 2006 fire at 171 Washington Street, Hudson is an electrical short circuit. The \$1.3 million fire occurred in a building that housed five commercial tenants and affected 37 motor vehicles and extended to one adjacent building.

The fire was jointly investigated by the Hudson Fire Department, Hudson Police Department and State Police assigned to the Office of the State Fire Marshal. Investigators determined that the fire originated in one of the automotive repair bays at Hudson Auto Sales.

Fire Officials Ask For Public's Help on Medford Arson

State Fire Marshal Stephen D. Coan and Medford Fire Chief Frank A. Giliberti Jr. are seeking the public's help in solving an arson fire at the former Franklin School in Medford. At 8:24 p.m. on the evening of May 18, 2006, a fire was deliberately set at 68 Central Avenue in an old school building that was being converted to condominiums. The damage is estimated to be in excess of \$100,000.

The fire is being jointly investigated by the Medford Fire Department, the Medford Police Department and State Police assigned to the Office of the State Fire Marshal.

Arson Watch Reward Program Offers up to \$5,000 for Information

Coan said, "Investigators are asking for the community's help. If anyone saw anything or anyone in or around the building between 8:00 and 8:30 that night, please call the Arson Hotline at 1-800-682-9229 or the Medford Fire or Police Departments." All calls to the Arson Hotline are toll-free and confidential and it is answered 24 hours a day, seven days a week. The Arson Watch Reward Program is offering a reward of up to \$5,000 for information that will help solve this case. The property and casualty insurance companies of Massachusetts fund the Arson Watch Reward Program.

Chief Giliberti said, "Arson is not a victimless crime. It hurts the very fabric of our community by causing fear and anxiety in the neighborhood, and hurts the city financially as well." He added, "I hope that if someone saw something that night or heard something they will come

forward and let investigators decide if it is relevant or important."

Hudson Fatal Fire Started in Rear Bedroom

Hudson Fire Chief John Blood and State Fire Marshal Stephen D. Coan announced that the fatal fire on June 26, 2006 located at 178 Lincoln Street, Hudson will remain undetermined, but is not believed to be suspicious. The fire took the life of Fredrick E. Compton, the 72-year old man who lived in the residence.

Coan said, "Local and state fire investigators are trained to determine where the fire started and to conduct a forensic fire scene examination and to interview witnesses. They will systematically eliminate all possible ignition scenarios until they are left with the most probable one, the cause of the fire." National Fire Protection Association standards for fire investigators require them to leave a fire cause as undetermined until they are able to rule out all but one possible cause. Chief Blood said, "The fire started in the rear bedroom and there were no signs of forced entry or foul play. Investigators are unable to rule out several possible heat sources, but have no evidence that this was anything but an unintentional fire."

There were no working smoke alarms in the home. According to the Massachusetts Fire Incident Reporting System, one-quarter of fire deaths occur where there are no working smoke alarms.

Chief Blood said, "It is always hard on the firefighters when they are not able to make a successful rescue, but I want to acknowledge their hard work to get the victim quickly and

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then fight the fire effectively.”

The fire was jointly investigated by the Hudson Fire Department, the Hudson Police Department and State Police assigned to the Office of the State Fire Marshal.

Fatal Fire & Explosion Due to Flammable Vapors in Sewer System

The explosion and fire at 15 Craig Street, Quincy on the evening of June 28, 2006 was caused by the ignition of flammable vapors that entered the home through the sewer system. The vapors entered the home through the drains in a little used basement bathroom.

The Quincy Fire Department, Quincy Police Department and State Police investigators assigned to the Office of the State Fire Marshal jointly investigated the explosion.

The District 2 Hazardous Materials Response Team responded. Their testing showed evidence of flammable vapors in the sewer system but no longer any flammable liquid in the sewer water. Without a sample of the liquid to test, the specific flammable liquid cannot be identified with 100% certainty. It also makes it difficult to pinpoint the source of the flammable liquid.

The Massachusetts Water Resources Authority (MWRA) responded to the scene and is working with the Quincy Water and Sewer Department and they are continuing to monitor the sewer water. ♦

Housing Market Could Set Stage for Arsons-for-Profit

The newspapers are full of reports of the housing slowdown squeezing borrowers, foreclosure filings in Massachusetts jumping by huge percentages, skyrocketing rates on adjustable rate mortgages, difficulty in obtaining insurance on coastal properties, and borrowers being trapped by unscrupulous lenders to mortgages they cannot support. The boom and bust cycle of the housing market has in the past also created pressures that have lead homeowners to see a fire as the only way out from under. Fire investigators should be aware the increasing potential for these types of fires and how to investigate and document them.

Interfire.org has on its webpage (http://www.interfire.org/res_file/ar-snanat.asp) a reprint of an interesting article by Guy E. Burnette, Jr, Esquire, titled *Anatomy of an Arson Case*. Until recently it was also posted on the Metro Arson Group's webpage at <http://www.metroarson.org> that has many other valuable resources for fire investigators. The article discusses the financial pressures and incentives that can lead to arson-for-profit and how to research and prosecute these cases.

Foreclosures also create situations

for more traditional arsonists, not unlike what occurred in Lawrence in the late 1980s. If homes are foreclosed, they may be boarded-up, left unoccupied and not cared for as well. Vacant buildings are attractive to the homeless, drug addicts, prostitutes, gangs, and idle youth, and can easily lead to fires. Vacant buildings have a negative impact on the quality of life in any neighborhood and its property values, only made worse by fire.

Fire investigators are keenly aware that teaming up with local police will help develop the leads needed to determine exactly how these fires started – did a candle tip over, was someone smoking on a mattress, or was it deliberately set? Fire prevention officers and building code officials should be aware of the potential problem and work with other city and town officials to develop a prevention strategy. Such strategies can include youth programs, economic development programs to help keep people in their homes or to quickly move them into the hands of new owners, increased police patrols, discussions with bank officials, and code officials making sure the building is properly secured. ♦

CPSC Investigations Net Three Sellers of Illegal Fireworks Components

As part of its year-round commitment to keeping American consumers safe from illegal fireworks, the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) announced on July 20, 2006 success in its crackdown of illegal sales of fireworks, fireworks components and chemicals.

Undercover investigations spearheaded by CPSC resulted in federal action against three separate individuals, preventing them from selling dangerous fireworks components to

consumers in the future.

In one case, Rick Ellis, the owner of Pyroworks, based in Blackwell, Mo., pleaded guilty to six counts of selling chemicals and components used to make illegal fireworks. As part of the plea agreement, Ellis and Pyroworks also entered into a consent decree that permanently bars him and his firm from selling fuels, oxidizers, tubes, end caps, and fuses.

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The following are excerpts from press releases issued by the U.S. Consumer Products Safety Commission (CPSC) regarding products recalled for fire or burn hazards. Consumers should immediately stop using any of these products and contact the U.S. Consumer Products Safety Commission or the manufacturer for instructions on how to proceed. The web address is: www.cpsc.gov

BATTERIES

8/15/06 06-231

Dell-brand lithium-ion batteries made with cells manufactured by Sony Dell Inc.

These lithium-ion batteries can overheat, posing a fire hazard to consumers.

<http://www.cpsc.gov/cpscpub/prerel/prhtml06/06231.html>

8/24/06 06-245

Rechargeable, lithium-ion batteries with cells manufactured by Sony for certain previous iBook G4 & PowerBook G4 notebook computers only.

Apple Computer, Inc.

These lithium-ion batteries can overheat, posing a fire hazard to consumers.

<http://www.cpsc.gov/cpscpub/prerel/prhtml06/06245.html>

CAMERAS



6/6/06 06-176

HP Photosmart R707 Digital Cameras

Hewlett-Packard Company

The digital camera can cause certain non-rechargeable batteries, such as the Duracell CP-1, to overheat when the camera is connected to an AC adapter or docking station.

<http://www.cpsc.gov/cpscpub/prerel/prhtml06/06176.html>

CANDLES

5/18/06 06-168

Outdoor Candles

IKEA Home Furnishings

The candle's wax can catch fire causing a high flame and posing a fire and burn hazard.

<http://www.cpsc.gov/cpscpub/prerel/prhtml06/06168.html>

6/26/06 06-196

"Money Bag" Candles

The Swill Colony

The decorations on the candle can ignite, posing a fire hazard. Also, excessive pooling of wax from the burning candles poses a burn hazard.

<http://www.cpsc.gov/cpscpub/prerel/prhtml06/06196.html>

7/5/06 06-204

Cement Candles

Home Fragrance Holdings Inc.

The candles can unexpectedly flare.

<http://www.cpsc.gov/cpscpub/prerel/prhtml06/06204.html>

CHILDREN'S CLOTHING

8/9/06 06-228

Quicksilver & Roxy Girl Lounge Pants

Quicksilver, Inc.

These lounge pants fail to meet the children's sleepwear flammability standards, posing a risk of burn injury to children, due to the ignition of the garment.

<http://www.cpsc.gov/cpscpub/prerel/prhtml06/06228.html>



COFFEEMAKERS

6/6/06 06-175

Black & Decker Brand Thermal Coffeemaker

Applia Consumer Products Inc.

The coffeemaker may not turn off as programmed, causing the unit to overheat and melt.

<http://www.cpsc.gov/cpscpub/prerel/prhtml06/06175.html>

7/25/06 06-220

Bunn Home Coffeemakers

Bunn-O-Matic Corp.

The coffeemaker's plastic pour-in bowl and lid can melt or ignite due to an electrical failure.

<http://www.cpsc.gov/cpscpub/prerel/prhtml06/06220.html>

ELECTRIC SMOKERS

5/31/06 06-173

Electric Smokehouse Smokers

Masterbuilt Mfg. Inc.

Smoldering wood chips used in the wood chip box can ignite into flames when the door of the unit is opened.

<http://www.cpsc.gov/cpscpub/prerel/prhtml06/06173.html>



EXTENSION CORDS

8/10/06 06-230

6-foot Power Xtension

Greenbrier International Inc.

The counterfeit extension cords could have undersized wire and substandard insulation, which can cause overheating.

<http://www.cpsc.gov/cpscpub/prerel/prhtml06/06230.html>

FIREPLACES

6/28/06 06-198

Sequoia Wood Burn Fireplaces

CFM Corp.

Due to insufficient insulation or a missing weld, some of these fireplaces could pose a fire hazard.

<http://www.cpsc.gov/cpscpub/prerel/prhtml06/06198.html>

8/29/06 06-249

"Garden Treasures" Steel Dome Fireplaces

Agio International Co. Ltd.

Touch-up paint used on the fireplace's exterior can ignite during use, posing a fire hazard.

<http://www.cpsc.gov/cpscpub/prerel/prhtml06/06249.html>

GAS CONTROLS

8/2/06 06-222

Robertshaw FS Flame Switches & FM Automatic Safety Valves Robertshaw Controls Co.

These controls are designed to prevent gas from flowing when the pilot light is out. The recalled controls can remain on after the pilot light is extinguished.

<http://www.cpsc.gov/cpscpub/prerel/prhtml06/06222.html>

GAS GRILL

6/1/06 06-174

Nexgrill Gas Grills

Nexgrill Industries Inc.

The gas grill has a hose that connects the propane tank to the burner manifold. If this hose runs up too close to the firebox, the heat can cause the hose to detach from the burner manifold, causing a gas leak and a fire hazard.

<http://www.cpsc.gov/cpscpub/prerel/prhtml06/06174.html>

GAS RANGE

6/8/06 06-181

Sunbeam Gas Range

Atlas Industrial S.A.

These ranges lack an adequate heat shield, and can cause scorching of certain flooring materials directly under the

appliance.

<http://www.cpsc.gov/cpscpub/prerel/prhtml06/06181.html>

HAIR DRYERS

7/19/06 06-217

"Monica" & "Turbo 1200" Hand-Held Hair Dryers Style Tronics Inc.

These electric hair dryers are not equipped with an immersion protection plug to prevent electrocution if the hair dryer falls into the water.

<http://www.cpsc.gov/cpscpub/prerel/prhtml06/06217.html>

Humidifiers

7/18/06 06-215

Warm Mist Carefree Humidifier

Hunter Fan Co.

Water from the humidifier can leak into the unit's electrical compartment posing a fire hazard.

<http://www.cpsc.gov/cpscpub/prerel/prhtml06/06215.html>

JUMP DRIVES

7/6/06 06-205

Lexar JumpDrive Firefly & 1GB Secure II

Lexar Media Inc.

The recalled JumpDrives(r) FireFly and Secure II products could overheat, posing a risk of burns to consumers and property damage.

<http://www.cpsc.gov/cpscpub/prerel/prhtml06/06205.html>

LAMPS

8/8/06 06-225

Mars Lightning ElectroPlasma Lamps

Spencer Gifts LLC

Arcing between an object and the removable cover of the lamp can pose a fire hazard.

<http://www.cpsc.gov/cpscpub/prerel/prhtml06/06225.html>

8/9/06 06-227

Crazy Daisy 3-in-1 Electronic Motion Shade Lamps J.C. Penney Corporation Inc.

The lamp's electrical circuit board can spark and overheat due to an electrical problem.

<http://www.cpsc.gov/cpscpub/prerel/prhtml06/06227.html>

LAWN TRACTORS

7/11/06 06-207

Lawn Tractors

Husqvarna Outdoor Products., Inc.

The fuel line on these lawn tractors can separate from the fuel tank outlet, spilling fuel and posing a fire hazard.

<http://www.cpsc.gov/cpscpub/prerel/prhtml06/06207.html>

MIRROR

5/25/06 06-171

Simply Basic Lighted Mirror

Wal-Mart Stores, Inc.

Exposed wires inside the mirror could pose an electrical shock hazard to the user when the touch the mirror.

<http://www.cpsc.gov/cpscpub/prerel/prhtml06/06171.html>

RADIO-CONTROLLED AIRPLANES

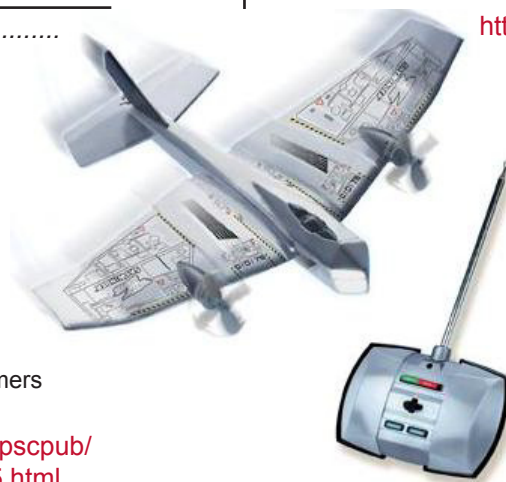
8/22/06 06-241

Air Hogs RC Skywinder Radio-Controlled Airplanes

Spin Master Toys

The rechargeable battery pack inside the toy airplane can overheat posing a burn hazard.

<http://www.cpsc.gov/cpscpub/prerel/prhtml06/06241.html>



RADIOS

6/7/06 06-180

Eton E1XM-Model AM/FM/SW/XM-Ready Radios Eton Corp.

The battery in this radio can overheat and possibly rupture when using the AC adapter.

<http://www.cpsc.gov/cpscpub/prerel/prhtml06/06180.html>

SCIENCE KITS

8/22/06 06-240

"Ideal" and "Brighter Child" Brand Science Kits

School Specialty Publishing

The battery case in the science kit can overheat, posing a thermal burn hazard.

<http://www.cpsc.gov/cpscpub/prerel/prhtml06/06240.html>

SNOWTHROWERS

8/3/06 06-224

Toro Snow Commander & CCR Single Stage Snowthrowers

The Toro Company

The plastic fuel tank can crack and leak gasoline, posing a risk of fire and injury.

<http://www.cpsc.gov/cpscpub/prerel/prhtml06/06224.html>

WATER PUMPS

8/23/06 06-244

Goulds Pumps, Bell & Gossett & Red Jacket Water Products Brand Pumps for Fire Suppression Systems

Water Technology Inc.

A mechanical part on these pumps was not fully tightened, which can lead to the pump failing during use. If pumps sold with fire suppression systems fail, the risk of fire damage increases. The pump itself does not pose a fire hazard.

<http://www.cpsc.gov/cpscpub/prerel/prhtml06/06244.html> ♦

DFS Staff in Different Uniforms – Part II

Jason Messenger, a Mass. Firefighting Academy Instructor and a Westover Fire Department firefighter/EMT, was deployed by the U.S. Air Force National Guard to Balad, Iraq in June 2006. The North Brookfield resident was responsible for running the Air Force Theater Hospital Emergency Room, which included supervising 13 technicians who worked two 12-hour shifts. This emergency room (ER) was the first stop for critically injured U.S. and Coalition Forces as well as for civilians. This ER is the equivalent to a level one state side trauma center, minus the MRI capabilities. According to Jason, the ER treated approx. 750 trauma patients a month for injuries that included traumatic amputations, gun shot wounds, shrapnel wounds from explosions, car accidents and anything in between.

In summarizing his experience, Jason says, "For years, I have been

training for war and almost 18 years into my career, I got the chance to practice what I have been training for. I am only a small part of a huge dynamic team of dedicated individuals who are here making a difference."

On Sept. 12, DFS learned that Jason was sent home. DFS is sure that he's looking forward to many things that he missed, such as his daughter, cooking his own food and just being able to get into his own car and drive around.

Follow-up on Other Deployed DFS Staff (from the July issue of the All Hands Herald) Capt. David Brouillette, a Dracut Fire Department captain, returned home in late July; Walter Guertin, a Attleboro Fire Department firefighter and paramedic, returned home the first week in September; and Paul Jacques, also an Attleboro firefighter, is finishing up his tour of duty. ♦

CPSC Investigations

Continued from page 4

A former associate of Ellis at Pyroworks, Christina Beck, of Arnold, Mo., also pleaded guilty to the same charges and entered into a similar consent decree.

Sentencing for Ellis and Beck is scheduled for later this summer.

In a separate case, the owner of Skylight Company and Tannerite Company has entered into a consent decree. Daniel Tanner, of Pleasant Hill, Ore., has agreed to stop selling the chemicals and components used to make illegal fireworks, such as M-80s and quarter-sticks. The consent decree does not prohibit Mr. Tanner from selling Tannerite Targets.

Under the Federal Hazardous Substances Act, CPSC prohibits the sale of several dangerous types of fireworks and the components used to make them. Banned fireworks include various large aerial devices, M-80s, quarter-sticks, half-sticks and other large fireworks. The ban covers firecrackers with more than 50 milligrams of explosive powder and any aerial firework that uses more than 130 milligrams of flash powder or other pyrotechnic composition to produce an audible effect, as well as mail order kits and components intended to build these fireworks.

The cases were filed by the U.S. Department of Justice's Office of Consumer Litigation on behalf of CPSC. ♦

MA Firefighting Academy

Recruit Firefighters Graduate State Firefighting Academy

State Fire Marshal Stephen D. Coan and Massachusetts Firefighting Academy Director Laurent R. McDonald are pleased to announce the graduation of the 172nd Class of the Massachusetts Firefighting Academy's sixty day Recruit Firefighting Program on June 22, 2006. Coan said, "This rigorous professional training provides our newest firefighters with the basic skills to perform their jobs effectively and safely." The Massachusetts Firefighting Academy, a division of the Department of Fire Services, offers this program, tuition-free.

70 Graduates From 37 Fire Departments

The seventy graduates, two women and 68 men, represent the thirty-five fire departments of: Agawam, Amherst, Andover, Bedford, Bellingham, Beverly, Blackstone, Burlington, Canton, Duxbury, Falmouth, Halifax, Hudson, Lakeville, Leominster, Lexington, Lowell, Lynn, Mansfield, Marlborough, Marshfield, Methuen,



Recruit Class #173

Photo by Sue Pelter

Natick, North Attleboro, North Reading, Plainville, Revere, Seekonk, Swampscott, Taunton, Walpole, West Barnstable, West Bridgewater, Westfield, Westport, Whitman, and Yarmouth.

Whitman Fire Chief Timothy Travers Guest Speaker

Whitman Fire Chief and Chairman of the state Fire Services Commission Timothy Travers addressed the recruits.

MFA Physical Fitness Program

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the preparation guide which include warm-up, strength and muscular endurance exercises, aerobic training, and cool-down. All are designed to increase dexterity and flexibility while improving aerobic capacity and performance.

In addition to adoption of the fitness program, the Training Council has approved several changes to the recruit application process. These changes relate to the timelines for the submission of evidence of medical examination and PAT documentation. The approved forms must be submitted no more than twelve months prior to the recruit class start

date. This requirement applies to ALL communities, regardless whether you're a Civil Service community or not.

An informational CD-ROM was developed and distributed to every fire department throughout the Commonwealth during the month of July. The disk provides the information regarding changes to the program as well as guidance on how the application process is conducted. During the month of August, MFA staff members conducted informational seminars in Barnstable, Essex, and Hampden counties as well as two events at the Stow campus. The seminars served to further inform

fire chiefs of the changes and also allowed our staff to obtain valuable feedback.

The academy is in the process of notifying all recruit candidates currently on the list of the new requirements. The letters identify the specific physical activities for which they will be responsible and also provides several points of reference for any questions or concerns they may have. All potential candidates are strongly urged to adequately prepare themselves physically so they may successfully meet the requirements of the new standard. ♦

Department of Justice Releases Updated PSOB Program Regulations

New Rule Implements Provisions Extending PSOB Coverage to Victims of Heart Attacks and Strokes in the Line of Duty

(Note: This article is from the International Association of Fire Chiefs website, 8/24/06)

The final rule for the Public Safety Officers Benefit Program (PSOB) has been released by the Bureau of Justice Assistance and will go into affect on September 11, 2006. These new regulations implement provisions of the *Hometown Heroes Survivor Benefit Act*, passed into law in 2003, which extend PSOB coverage to victims of heart attacks and strokes in the line of duty.

The families of 132 firefighters who suffered heart attack or strokes in the line of duty have been awaiting the release of this rule to finalize their claims. The IAFC learned from the PSOB office in May 2006 that the office's entire efforts will be focused on completion of these claims – some of which are more than two years pending – when the rule goes into affect in September.

The PSOB Program was created by the U.S. Department of Justice in 1976 to assist the families of fallen public safety officers with survivor benefits. The program was expanded in 1990 to include public safety officers who are permanently

and totally disabled as a result of a catastrophic injury in the line of duty and again in 1998 to cover higher educational costs of spouses and dependents. In 2001, the base payment to survivors was increased to \$250,000.

Departments that need to file a PSOB claim should visit <https://www.psob.gov/>. This new web site has been created by the PSOB office to facilitate the claims process and automate files to ensure accountability. Claimants have three years following the injury or fatality of an officer to file all pertinent reports and the PSOB office has staff members to assist in the process.

In September 2005, the IAFC joined with nine other fire service organizations and raised concerns with the proposed draft rule language during its comment period. These concerns were addressed in the final rule and we are pleased with these results. Of note, the proposed rule's definition of a "firefighter" was changed to include all emergency activities, such as fire suppression, hazmat, technical rescue, search and rescue, emergency medical services, etc., and utilizes the more appropriate Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA) definition.

The IAFC also raised concern with the proposed rule's use of "competent medical evidence to the

contrary" when assessing heart attack and stroke cases. To consider non-line-of-duty causes, the proposed rule utilized a "test" weighing risk factors. The final rule changed this and instead will consider medical probability of other factors on a case-by-case basis. Finally, the IAFC had raised concern with the proposed rule's definition of "non-routine stressful or strenuous physical activity," finding it vague. The final rule retained the contested language but IAFC will continue to monitor this issue and the PSOB office begins implementing this rule on a case-by-case basis. ♦

OSHA Offers New Publication on Fire Service

The Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) is offering a new publication, *Fire Service Features of Buildings and Fire Protection Systems*, that will help increase the safety of building occupants and emergency responders by streamlining fire service interaction with building features and fire protection systems.

"Our new booklet offers practical and important information that can help save lives," said Edwin G. Foulke, Jr., Assistant Secretary of Labor for OSHA. "Fire service can be very dangerous work and our new manual is one more resource that can be used to help keep firefighters and other emergency responders safe."

Fire service operations take place in stressful and time sensitive environments. Decisions are often made in unfamiliar settings and without vital information, such as what is burning, where the fire is spreading, or the

17th Annual Firefighter Year of the Award Ceremony

October 26, 2006

Governor Mitt Romney and Lt. Governor Kerry Healey will present the 17th annual heroic awards in a ceremony honoring members of the fire service at historic Faneuil Hall, Boston at 11 a.m. ♦

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USFA Releases Report on 2005 Firefighter Deaths

In July 2006, the United States Fire Administration (USFA) announced that 115 on-duty firefighter fatalities occurred in the United States in 2005, plus four additional fatalities resulting from injuries sustained while on duty from previous years.

"One of the most difficult elements in this job is to hear that annual number of on-duty firefighter deaths," Acting United States Fire

Administrator Charlie Dickinson said. "Across the country, over one hundred more families are struggling with the terrible losses of loved ones, from an 18-year old firefighter in training to the 55 firefighters who suffered fatal heart attacks."

In 2005, there were four multiple-firefighter fatality incidents. Two New York City firefighters died in January when rapid fire progress forced them to jump from a fire-involved structure; three firefighters were killed in the crash of a helicopter in Texas in March as they assisted with a con-

trolled burn; two Wyoming firefighters died in a residential structure fire in April; and three firefighters were killed in the crash of an air tanker in California.

Six firefighters died of cerebral vascular accidents (CVAs). Vehicle crashes took 25 lives. Heart attack

"One of the most difficult elements in this job is to hear that annual number of on-duty firefighter deaths,"

was the cause of 55 deaths, which is lower than the 61 from 2004.

The average age of firefighters who died in 2005 was 47 years - the youngest was 18 and the oldest was 76.

"Positive strides are being made through the growth of new and active firefighter health and safety programs, national safety stand downs, and the National Fallen Firefighter Foundation's Everyone Goes Home efforts," Dickinson emphasized. "USFA is committed to doing everything we can to reduce these losses

and hopefully all fire departments will share and join our commitment to protect all firefighters serving their communities."

The report, Firefighter Fatalities in the United States in 2005, FA-306, can be downloaded from www.usfa.dhs.gov. Orders for printed cop-

ies will be accepted beginning in September 2006 through the USFA Publications Center.

Additional information on firefighter fatalities, including the annual fatality reports from 1986 through 2004 and the Firefighter Fatality Retrospective Study 1990-2000, can be found at USFA's Web site: <http://www.usfa.dhs.gov/fatalities/>. ♦

Safe Cigarette Bill

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of many years of effort by various state officials, the fire service, and consumer advocates. Under the new law, cigarettes sold after January 1, 2008, will be required to be sold with special paper, which slows down the burn of the cigarette to prevent smoldering if the cigarette is not being smoked. The Harvard University School of Public Health has conducted research to show that these cigarettes are 90% less likely to cause fires.

The bill is formally named the Kearney-O'Neill-McGovern Law after the Kearney family of West Roxbury, who lost six people in a 1990 fire.

With the addition of Massachusetts, one quarter of the country's population is within states with fire safe cigarette laws; perhaps soon the federal government will mandate their use nationwide.

See <http://www.mass.gov/legis/laws/seslaw06/sl060140.htm> for a copy of the bill. ♦

National Fire Academy On-Line Training Courses are Moving!

In August 2006, the U.S. Fire Administration's National Fire Academy (NFA) announced its on-line training courses ("Q" courses) are moving to a new home on the Web this fall. Currently NFA on-line training courses can be accessed on the NETC Virtual Campus through the USFA Web site.

Current users of NFA "Q" courses, will need to submit 75-5a application forms by October 1 in order to receive recognition for course completion. Once the NFA has moved to the new system, any student who has not submitted the 75-5a application form will need to retake the course in order to receive credit and a NFA certificate." The NETC Virtual Campus and the 75-5a application form can both be accessed through the USFA Web site at www.usfa.dhs.gov/training. Completed application forms can be faxed to 301-447-1601. Upon receipt of the application, successful completion will be verified and a certificate will be issued. Questions can be directed to joyce.glass@dhs.gov or cathy.broughton@dhs.gov ♦

location of occupants. Poorly located fire hydrants, inaccessible fire department connections, confusing zone information, unmarked valves, or improperly designed standpipes are examples of features that can slow fire service operations. Delays, however brief, can dramatically affect an operation and its outcome

OSHA's new manual explains how fire service operations can be influenced by different building features and offers considerations for design professionals that can help facilitate these operations. The manual includes chapters and narratives on building and site design, sprinkler systems, standpipe systems, fire department connections, fire alarm and communications systems, as well as various firefighting systems.

The material in Fire Service Features of Building and Fire Protection Systems is appropriate for all fire service organizations, including fire brigades and fire departments. Many of the discussions can help during responses for other emergencies such as hazardous material releases, emergency medical care, non-fire rescues and terrorist events.

The new booklet can be downloaded from OSHA's web site on the publications page or by calling OSHA's publications office at 202.693.1888.

Under the Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970, employers are responsible for providing a safe and healthful workplace for their employees. OSHA's role is to assure the safety and health of America's working men and women by setting and enforcing standards; providing training, outreach, and education; establishing partnerships; and encouraging continual process improvement in workplace safety and health. For more information, visit www.osha.gov. ♦

EOPS Presents Award to DFS

The Executive Office of Public Safety awarded four Outstanding Achievement Awards and eight Meritorious Achievement Awards for Excellence in Public Safety at a ceremony held on July 20 at the State House. The Department of Fire Services received two meritorious achievement awards. One was for the staff work on the Massachusetts Fire Safety Act of 2004 and the Chapter 304 State-wide Training of Public Officials. The second was for the development of regulations for carbon monoxide alarms under "Nicole's Law". DFS

was the only state public safety agency to receive such recognition.

Secretary of Public Safety Robert Haas congratulated the DFS staff on this achievement and award at the Department of Fire Services on September 19, 2006. State Fire Marshal Coan said, "I am really proud of the DFS staff who worked long and hard on these projects while also juggling their regular day-to-day workloads." He added, "These are major accomplishments that will impact the safety of our citizens far into the future." ♦



State Fire Marshal Stephen D. Coan and Public Safety Secretary Robert C. Haas

Trivia Question:

Why are fire hydrants different colors?

(answer on page 13)

Massachusetts Sober Housing Corporation v. Automatic Sprinkler Appeals Board...A Case of Interest

The Commonwealth's Appeals Court recently upheld a decision of the State's Automatic Sprinkler Appeals Board requiring an automatic sprinkler system in a house owned by the Massachusetts Sober Housing Corporation (MSHC), a nonprofit organization.

MSHC purchases single-family houses in residential neighborhoods and operates them as "sober houses," where men or women recovering from alcoholism and drug addiction may live together in a safe and affordable home environment. MSHC owns each property and leases it to an unincorporated association comprised of the house's residents.

The City of Chelsea issued an order pursuant to M.G.L. c. 148, § 26H, to install sprinklers in a house purchased and renovated by MSHC. Section 26, which applies to any city or town that has voted to accept its provisions and requires "every lodging house or boarding house" to be protected with an adequate system of automatic sprinklers. The statute defines a lodging house as "a house where lodgings are let to six or more persons not within the second degree of kindred to the person conducting it..."

MSHC argued that the MSHC arrangement did not fit the precise statutory definition of "lodgings" under the statute nor does it conform to the historical meaning of a "lodging" or "boarding house". MSHC further asserted that the building was properly understood as a single-family home, and that this is how the city agreed to classify the particular building when it entered into the memorandum of understanding granting MSHC a reasonable zoning accommodation.

The Appeals Court unanimously upheld the decision of the Sprinkler

Appeals Board and adopted much of the Board's reasoning which emphasized that it "has consistently determined that the provisions of [G.L. c. 148, § 26H, apply to all houses that fit the criteria stated in the statute." It further stated that the "purpose of the automatic sprinkler requirement is to protect public safety in the event of a fire". The Court agreed with the Board's determination that the statute applies to all such buildings, "in a neutral manner, without regard to the ... disability status of the building occupants" and the Board's finding that "although the statute requires a monetary expenditure related to the installation of a fire sprinkler system, it clearly does not prohibit the intended use of the house to accomplish its mission".

The Appeals Court found that the house was properly deemed a "lodging house" and like a traditional lodging or boarding house, its purpose is to house a good number of unrelated men in a non-institutional setting, in a residential neighborhood, in a large house with many bedrooms. The court reasoned that the increased risk of fire or injury associated with traditional lodging or boarding house arrangements would appear equally applicable to the MSHC house and its admirable communal emphasis.

In conclusion, the court gave deference to the Automatic Sprinkler Appeals Board's reasonable interpretation of its own statute and to the board's expertise and experience in the technical aspects of fire safety. The court concluded that the board's "well-informed" decision was "supported by substantial evidence and contained no errors of law".

If you have any questions, contact Peter A. Senopoulos, Counsel for the Automatic Sprinkler Appeals Board, at 978-567-3183. ♦

Brockton Nightclub Cited for Overcrowding

1st Use of c148 s34A

Overcrowding was one of the contributing factors to the loss of life in The Station nightclub fire. The Secretary of Public Safety's Task Force on Fire and Building made several recommendations on addressing overcrowding and elevating the seriousness with which it is regarded that made their way into law. The comprehensive Mass. Fire Safety Act of 2004 created several new laws that address overcrowding in clubs and gave fire and building officials new tools to fight it.

This Fire Safety Act created MGL c 148 s 34A that establishes a fine of not more than \$5,000 or imprisonment for not more than 2 1/2 years when certain assembly use buildings including clubs or bars have certain dangerous conditions. Overcrowding is one of those dangerous conditions enumerated in the statute.

The Emi Safari club in Brockton was charged in court by the Brockton Fire Department under this statute for overcrowding and they admitted to sufficient facts. They have been fined \$1,500 and the charges were filed for one year without a finding. This is the first time we are aware of that this statute has been used to protect public safety.

The centerpiece of the Fire Safety Act was the requirement of sprinklers in certain clubs and bars with an occupancy of over 100 people. In addition, any such clubs not required to install sprinklers by their occupancy, but who put lives at risk by overcrowding twice in 12-months, or overcrowding by more than 1/2 their capacity, will be

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Plans Review Desk

Update by Dana Haagensen and Jacob Nunnemacher,
OSFM - Fire Protection Engineers

Have you ever been presented with a new development where you were suspicious of an architect's explanation for the lack of fire protection systems? Have you been told, "This is how we do it everywhere," by a contractor? Have you ever signed off on a permit thinking the information submitted is 'over your head'?

You should know that the Office of the State Fire Marshal has Fire Protection Engineers on staff that can assist your department in plan review, site walk-through, and acceptance test activities.

Recently, a four-story hotel with approximately 10,000 square feet per floor, was being constructed entirely of wood construction. The local fire department became understandably concerned that such a large building was being built almost entirely of wood, and decided to contact an OSFM Fire Protection Engineer. The Engineer visited the site and discovered that an exception in NFPA 13, Standard for the Instal-

lation of Sprinkler Systems, was being misapplied on the project. The sprinkler plans called for the omission of fire sprinkler protection in the interstitial spaces that contained composite (engineered) wood joist construction. The problem was that joists were staggered in the building such that the fire stopping required by the NFPA 13 exception was not present, creating an interstitial space that was open throughout the entire area of the building. After this violation was noted, the general contractor reluctantly provided the required fire stopping, thereby limiting the ability of fire to spread in the non-sprinklered interstitial space.

How to contact an OSFM Fire Protection Engineer? If your jurisdiction contains, or is south of, the Mass Pike - contact Jake Nunnemacher at 978-567-3377 or Jacob.Nunnemacher@DFS.state.ma.us. For jurisdictions north of the Mass Pike - contact Dana Haagensen at 978-567-3376 or Dana.Haagensen@DFS.state.ma.us ♦

Trivia Answer:

Have you ever wondered why different hydrants have their caps painted different colors? Fire hydrant caps are painted different colors to allow firefighters to quickly identify the flow rate of any fire hydrant. Knowing the flow rate of a fire hydrant tells them how much water it can provide for firefighting operations. The four basic colors of fire hydrants and their respective flow rates are listed below.

Red fire hydrants have a flow rate under 500 gallons per minute

Yellow fire hydrants have a flow rate between 500 and 999 gallons per minute.

Green fire hydrants have a flow rate between 1000 and 1499 gallons per minute.

Blue or light blue fire hydrants have a flow rate of 1500 gallons per minute or higher.

Sprinklers with Counterfeit UL Listing

Underwriters Laboratories Inc. (UL) is notifying consumers, distributors and property owners of chrome-plated automatic fire sprinklers that bear a counterfeit UL mark for the United States and Canada. Although marked with the word "Globe," these sprinklers are not manufactured by Globe Fire Sprinkler Corporation, and have not been evaluated for safety by UL.

Model of Product: GL 5651

Units: Unknown quantity

Manufacturer: Unknown

Date of Manufacture: 2005 to present

Identification: Pendent-type automatic fire sprinkler

Marking on Frame: GLOBE

Marking on the Deflector: SSP, "UL" in a circle, GL 5651, 2005, 155°F/68°C

UL listed sprinklers manufactured by Globe Fire Sprinkler Corporation contain a hex-head screw and a Job G5 glass bulb.

Sprinklers with the counterfeit UL Mark are manufactured with a slot-head screw and a Job F5 glass bulb.

To view a picture of product, go to: <http://www.ul.com/media/newsrel/nr071406.html>

What you should do: UL recommends that the sprinklers be replaced by qualified service personnel and returned to the place of purchase.

For more information, contact Joe Hirschmugl in Northbrook, Ill., by phone at +1-847-664-1508; or by e-mail at Joseph.F.Hirschmugl@us.ul.com. ♦

Code Compliance & Enforcement

Inspection of Social Clubs

As a result of the recent tragedy at the Holy Ghost Social Club in Fall River that resulted in four deaths and thirteen injuries, State Fire Marshal Coan requested that fire chiefs undertake an initiative to identify and inspect any social clubs in their jurisdiction for fire and other code violations. As was the case in Fall River, many of these clubs may not be properly identified and classified as Assembly occupancies and, therefore, may have escaped fire and building code inspections. While it may not be possible to identify every unpermit-

ted social club, many of these clubs are very public and easily identified. He asked chiefs for assistance in educating the owner or operators of these clubs so they may better understand the dangers inherent in the use of these facilities, particularly in regard to the areas of flammable decorations and candle safety. DFS has prepared a fire safety educational flyer *Fire Safety for Social Clubs*, which is posted along with other relevant important fire prevention information on our website at <http://www.mass.gov/dfs/osfm/pubed/fire-safetytopics/index.htm>. ♦

House of Horrors

On June 22, 2006, State Police fire investigators asked the Code Compliance Office to assist with the investigation into a generator fire at a traveling carnival in Chelsea. While on scene the code compliance officer became aware of the unsafe conditions inside the retrofitted box trailers being used as carnival worker housing. The conditions posed an imminent life safety threat.

The workers paid \$25 a week to share a "room" inside the trailer. There were seven "rooms" with a wooden bunk bed for two in each, housing a total of 14 people per trailer. The rooms had walls or partitions that did not go floor-to-ceiling so there was open space above the "rooms" and each closed with a slider door that had a lock. A hallway was 2.5 feet wide and led to a bathroom with shower and a common cooking area with a hotplate and microwave. There were two exits. The side door was the main entrance that everyone used and there was a rear exit that opened with a slide bolt onto a 5-foot drop where the stairs should have been. Most rooms had

a window air conditioner obstructing the small 3'X3" window as a means of egress.

The trailers were equipped with hard-wired smoke alarms that had been ripped from the walls and thus disabled. Carbon monoxide alarms were installed but they had no batteries and were thus disabled. Emergency lights were present but not working.

The Chelsea Building Inspector, the Chelsea Health Inspector, and a State Building official quickly joined the joint investigation into these life safety issues. The health inspector must inspect all rental units and no such inspection had occurred and he found violations relating to disposal of the grey water from the showers.

If there were a fire in this situation, there would have been no notice to sleeping occupants, deadly smoke and fire would have traveled quickly, there would have been complete darkness, and virtually no way to escape the heat, smoke and flames.

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Wood Boilers and Outdoor Wood Burning Devices

This office continues to receive inquiries regarding the use of outdoor wood boilers and various other devices such as chimineas. In order to provide guidance to local fire departments, the Department of Fire Services is issuing this advisory.

Outdoor Wood Boilers

Outdoor wood boilers are self-contained wood-fired hot water boilers that are located outside, typically twenty or more feet from the building being heated. Because of the size, location and configuration of these units they are not regulated under the Massachusetts State Building Code (780 CMR), nor the Massachusetts Fire Code (527 CMR). At least one Massachusetts community has regulated these appliances through the use of local bylaws or ordinances. Massachusetts Air Pollution Control Regulations (310 CMR 7.00) do not specifically address these devices. These regulations (310 CMR 7.09) prohibit any burning which creates a nuisance or a condition of air pollution (i.e., excessive smoke) or hazard to others. This specific portion of the regulation is enforceable by the fire department.

Outdoor Fire Pits, Outdoor Fireplaces and Chimineas

These are devices that have gained in popularity over the past several years, and they come in many shapes and sizes. These devices are not specifically regulated under Chapter 148, 527 CMR or the Air Pollution Prevention Regulations 310 CMR 7.00. Typically these devices are to be fueled by clean firewood. 310 CMR 7.07 (relative to the Fire Pits) and 7.08 (relative to the Outdoor Fireplaces and Chimineas) prohibit the burning of trash, refuse

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Weekly E-mail Based Training Available for Fire Inspectors

The United States Fire Administration has developed an e-mail based training program for fire inspectors. The program is called Coffee Break Training. Fire inspectors with busy daily schedules often don't have time to attend valuable skill-enhancing training sessions. This program is intended to cover that gap with weekly technical training. The training is in a one-page format and includes a drawing or photograph related to the subject. Some previous topics have included fire protection systems, building construction, codes and standards, inspection techniques, hazardous materials and administrative tips.

The Fire Administration plans to cover fire pump installations, liquefied petroleum gas storage regulations, standpipe and sprinkler systems, and storage of lightweight roof trusses on job sites in future editions. For more information or to sign up for the training, go to USFA's web site. <http://www.usfa.dhs.gov/training/nfa/coffee-break> ♦

Moving Into that New Station? Let Us Know Your New Address

When you move into that new fire headquarters, be sure to let us know your new contact information; i.e., address, phone and fax numbers. When the Department of Fire Services sends mail to your department after you have moved and the forwarding time has expired, the mail is returned to us at a cost and you don't get our important information. Thank you for your assistance. ♦

Changes to the Massachusetts Fire Code 527 CMR

The Board of Fire Prevention Regulations has recently made changes and updated several sections of 527 CMR.

The Board revised 527 CMR 2 concerning fireworks. Prior to this change the regulation treated the long-term storage of fireworks as the storage of explosives. The changes to 527 CMR 2 bring the regulation in line with storage requirements mandated by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives which treat fireworks somewhat differently than explosives. The revised regulation also requires that fireworks storage magazines be permitted by the Marshal in addition to local licensing requirements.

527 CMR 13 was amended to eliminate fireworks and model rockets from the scope of the regulation. Requirements for fireworks are now found in 527 CMR 2 and the requirements for model rockets are found in 527 CMR 16.

The Board deleted references in 527 CMR 10.03(8) Commercial Kitchen Exhaust Systems and Maintenance. The Board adopted an entirely new regulation, 527 CMR 11. The purpose of the new regulation is to provide minimum fire safety requirements related to the design, installation and operation of commercial cooking operations. The Board adopted NFPA 96, 2004 edition as the standard.

The Board amended 527 CMR 10.3(2)(c), (d), and (e). These changes were as a result of recommendations made after the tragic Station Nightclub fire. The regulation requires that an announcement be made prior to the start of any program-taking place in an A-1 or A-2 use group. The announcement must notify the occupants of the egress routes and exits. Occupants must also be informed of areas of rescue assistance for use by patrons with

disabilities. Places of assembly will be required to complete a fire and building safety checklist. These checklists must be available for inspection by fire departments and the Marshal. Places of assembly in use group A-2 must have designated crowd managers. Duties of the crowd manager include maintaining clear exits, preventing overcrowding, insuring exit announcements are made, completion of the fire and building safety checklist, general fire safety awareness, activating the fire alarm in cases of fire and directing occupants to exits. These requirements have a January 1, 2007 implementation date. Fire Marshal Coan will be asking the Board to extend this date to allow for a more practical timetable to implement this important initiative.

Changes were made to 527 CMR 29. The previous version of the regulation required reupholstered furniture to be tested in accordance with California Technical Bulletin. The amended regulation permits reupholstered furniture to meet the requirements by being reupholstered with components meeting the requirements of California Technical Bulletins 116 and 117. The person doing the reupholstering must attach a tag to the furniture indicating their name, address, date of reupholstering, and statement indicating compliance with the regulation. Questions concerning these regulatory changes or general questions concerning 527 CMR should be addressed to the Code Compliance & Enforcement Unit at 978-567-3375, or in western Massachusetts at 413-587-3181. ♦

People would not be able to get out in case of fire and most likely would have died inside. There were plenty of potential ignition scenarios too: smoking, electrical, and cooking.

The local building official and the Office of the State Fire Marshal issued cease and desist orders. The trailers were closed as a threat to public safety and removed from the lot. Tickets were issued for failure to maintain the fire alarm system and failure to maintain emergency exits.

As a result of this incident, on August 1, 2006 State Fire Marshal Coan and Department of Public Safety (DPS) Commissioner Thomas Gatzunis issued a joint advisory to all fire and building officials. DPS contains the state building inspectors who administer the state building code as well as an amusement ride inspection team. The text follows.

Temporary Housing at Traveling Carnivals

During recent inspections conducted of traveling carnivals, the Department of Public Safety and the Department of Fire Services have become aware of potentially serious safety issues regarding the use of makeshift box trailers at these shows. Specifically, some of the amusement operators are housing their workers, on site, in retrofitted box trailers. These box trailers are typically hidden within the perimeter of the carnival's rides and games and are being used for various purposes, including makeshift cafeterias and worker housing. In many cases, the condition of these trailers presents a serious life safety hazard. The interiors of these box trailers are typically modified so that there is a narrow (2½ feet wide) hallway with several small bedrooms, partitioned by particleboard, located off the hallway. In the event of a fire or other emergency, there is inadequate ingress/egress.

Further, the location of these trailers

significantly hinders the ability of the fire department to access these trailers, as there are often rides, games, and other equipment obstructing the trailers from fire department apparatus. Should a fire or other emergency develop in one of these trailers or in this area, there could be serious consequences with the potential for multiple fatalities and injuries.

Due to this situation, we are advising that any city or town issuing a permit pursuant to M.G.L. c. 140, § 181 include a condition that prohibits sleeping in box trailers on the grounds. If the city or town wishes to allow these trailers, such trailers should be inspected and meet minimum fire, building, and sanitary code requirements. ♦

Composite LP-Gas Cylinders

The Board of Fire Prevention Regulations (BFPR) at its August 3, 2006, meeting discussed the use of composite LP-gas cylinders in the Commonwealth.

527 CMR 6, and NFPA 58-1998 Edition do not specifically allow the use of composite construction cylinders.

The BFPR unanimously approved the use of composite LP-gas cylinders. This approval is limited to composite cylinders bearing a U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) exemption DOT-E 13105.

If you have any questions, please contact the Code Compliance & Enforcement Unit at 978-567-3375 or in western Massachusetts at 413-587-3181. ♦

or other similar material in such devices. As with wood boilers, 310 CMR 7.09 prohibits any burning which creates a nuisance or a condition of air pollution (i.e., excessive smoke) or hazard to others, and again the fire department does have authority to enforce this prohibition. Additionally, Massachusetts General Law Chapter 148 § 5 allows the head of the fire department to order that conditions likely to cause fire be remedied. This could be applicable when these devices are located on decks, or porches or located close to buildings.

The Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection is currently reviewing its regulations and is anticipated to more specifically reference both wood boilers and chimineas in the future.

If you have any questions, you may contact your regional Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection or visit Mass. DEP's web sites at <http://www.mass.gov/dep/air/community/burnwood.htm> or <http://www.mass.gov/dep>. ♦

Nightclub Cited for Overcrowding

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required to install sprinklers within 1 year. In this case the club's occupancy was 95 people and they found that there were over 200 people in the building, more than twice their allowed occupancy. Since the court found the club was in violation of overcrowding, the fire department will be forwarding that information along to the building inspector, who is responsible for enforcing that specific provision of MGL C148 s 26G 1/2. ♦

Summary of the New Regulations

These newly regulated more "transient" types of residential occupancies must either install carbon monoxide alarms in every room and on every level, or adopt one of the six technical options for protection, labeled A-F in the regulation. The technical options allow owners to target the CO alarm protection only in those areas (i.e., rooms that contain boilers, hot water heaters, central laundry areas, and enclosed parking areas) that could be potential sources of CO. Most of these technical options include low-voltage wiring, monitoring (i.e., by an alarm company) and certain signal transmission requirements (notification to the fire department.)

What Are the Deadlines?

The hard-wired or technical option CO protection must be installed on January 1, 2007, but there is pending legislation to extend the deadline to January 1, 2008 for those buildings affected by these newly promulgated regulations.

Building Owner/Manager Responsibility

Any building owner or manager who wishes to take advantage of these technical options must obtain a permit from the fire department beginning December 1, 2006.

Additionally, the building owner or operator is responsible for the care and maintenance of the system. They must submit annually to the head of the fire department documentation of the inspection, maintenance and testing.

Emergency Plan for All Personnel

In addition, the building owner or manager must prepare a written emergency plan, available to all personnel and approved by the head of the fire department. There must be

an annual review of the plan with all employees of their duties and responsibilities under the plan. Policies and procedures must be developed to communicate the situation immediately to the fire department. There must be an evacuation plan. A list of emergency contact information of responsible parties must be provided to the fire department.

Technical Options

A) Protecting the Rooms with Fossil-Fuel Burning Equipment

The rooms with fossil-fuel burning equipment must have an audible and visual hard-wired alarm in the room that is monitored, and retransmitted.

B) When Certain Kitchen Appliances are Only Source of CO

If the only potential source of CO is a gas kitchen appliance with an electric ignition (like a commercial stove in a dormitory dining area), there must be written certification from a professional engineer that it complies with the plumbing code and only operates when the vent is open.

C) Integrated Shutdown Device

In rooms or areas with fossil-fuel burning equipment, a carbon monoxide alarm with an automatic shutdown device can be connected to the equipment. Such a component can be wired to the furnace and shut it down automatically. There are certain signage and restarting restrictions as well.

D) Spaces Adjacent to Enclosed Parking

If the only source of CO is from an enclosed parking area, one option is to install alarms in the adjacent spaces. The alarm must be monitored, and retransmitted.

E) Enclosed Parking with Mechanical Ventilation Systems

This option is an alternative to installing carbon monoxide alarms

in the spaces adjacent to enclosed parking. If an enclosed parking area has an automatic ventilation system, it must automatically operate when a sensor detects 25 PPM of CO and at 50 PPM set off a supervisory alarm to the building's alarm panel; the adjacent spaces do not need carbon monoxide alarms.

If the enclosed parking area has continuous mechanical ventilation at the rate of 5 cubic ft/minute/person or 1.5 cubic feet/minute/square foot of floor area, and it has a sensor that ensures that airflow is in operation and the sensor monitors direct airflow and will set off a supervisory alarm to the building's alarm panel, then the adjacent spaces do not need carbon monoxide alarms.

F) Protection for Room Mounted Fossil-Fuel Burning Equipment

When the only source of carbon monoxide is from roof-mounted fossil-fuel burning equipment that sends air to common areas only, then the duct must have a CO detection device that sends a supervised alarm to the building's system at 50 PPM and the unit must automatically shut-off. Alternatively the sensor can be on the floor closest to the roof-handling unit.

The automatic shutdown requirements in technical options C & F are not applicable to standby or emergency systems. ♦

State Fire Marshal Offers Recipe for Fire Safety During Fire Prevention Week, October 8-14, 2006

Prevent Cooking Fires, Watch What you Heat

It's time for Fire Prevention Week, and from October 8-14 State Fire Marshal Stephen D. Coan is joining forces with fire departments across the state to remind local residents to *Prevent Cooking Fires: Watch What You Heat*. During this year's fire safety campaign, firefighters and safety advocates will be spreading the word about the dangers of cooking fires — most of which result from unattended cooking — and teaching local residents how to prevent cooking fires from starting in the first place.

The Department of Fire Services (DFS) has a pamphlet on cooking and burn safety that can be loaded from our fire safety topics webpage http://www.mass.gov/dfs/osfm/pubed/flyers/cooking_safety.pdf and distributed by fire and life safety educators.

According to the Massachusetts Fire Incident Reporting System there were 7,326 fires in Massachusetts involving cooking that caused three

deaths, 90 injuries, 26 firefighter injuries and \$6.9 million in property damage. Cooking is the leading cause of home fires. Cooking fires are also the leading cause of home fire-related injuries.

Coan said, "Unattended cooking is the most frequent cause of cooking fires. We have to cook to eat everyday, so we urge cooks to 'stand by their pans'. We hope that Fire Prevention Week will help us reach folks in the community to prevent these kinds of fires and to learn to react appropriately to stove-top fire by putting a lid on it."

Among the safety tips that firefighters and safety advocates will be emphasizing:

- Stay in the kitchen when you are frying, grilling, broiling, or boiling food. If you must leave the room, even for a short period of time, turn off the stove.
- When you are simmering, baking, or roasting food, check it regularly, stay in the home, and use a timer to remind you.
- Fire educators recommend putting

a lid on cooking fires and turning off the heat. Moving a flaming pan easily spreads the fire to people, cabinets and other kitchen areas.

- If you have young children, use the stove's back burners whenever possible. Keep children and pets at least three feet away from the stove.
- When you cook, wear clothing with tight-fitting sleeves.
- Keep pot holders, oven mitts, wooden utensils, paper and plastic bags, towels, and anything else that can burn, away from your stove top.
- Clean up food and grease from burners and stove tops.

Coan added, "Make sure you have working smoke alarms on every level of your home and hold a fire drill at home to practice your home escape plan." ♦

FPW Resource for Fire & Life Safety Educators

Department of Fire Services
– www.mass.gov/dfs

- Fire Safety Topics – www.mass.gov/dfs/osfm/pubed/firesafetytopics/index.htm
- Resources for Fire Educators – www.mass.gov/dfs/osfm/pubed/resources/index.htm

Papa Gino's is once again supporting open houses at local fire stations.

Maryanne Dempsey – 508-435-2020

NFPA is the official sponsor of National Fire Prevention Week
– www.nfpa.org

U.S. Fire Administration – www.usfa.dhs.gov/

The Idea Bank – free public service announcements - www.theideabank.com/psa.html ♦



Older Adults Less Likely to Hear Standard Alarm

August 10, 2006 – While the use of smoke alarms and signaling systems is associated with a reduction in fire fatalities in the general population—reducing the chances of dying in a fire by 40 to 50 percent when present, a recent study suggests older adults (those 65 years of age and over) may not fully benefit from conventional smoke alarm systems, particularly during sleeping hours.

With support from the U.S. Fire Administration's Fire Prevention and Safety grants program and the alarm industry, the Fire Protection Research Foundation undertook a study in 2005 to assess the performance requirements for alarm and signaling systems to meet the needs of an aging population. Risk assessment and human behavior studies were undertaken, as well as a review of new and promising technologies that may improve the waking effectiveness of smoke alarms for older adults and improve their overall fire safety. According to the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA), older adults are more than twice as likely to die in a home fire as the average person. On average, 800 older adults die in home fires each year.

Results

The results showed that under comparative test conditions, the high pitched signal typical of that used in U.S. smoke alarms performed the most poorly of the alternative signals tested. The results also indicate that a male voice alarm is not suitable for older adults.

Conclusions

The study concluded that the high frequency alarm signal that is typically used in current smoke alarms should ultimately be replaced by an alternative signal that offers significantly better waking effectiveness across the general population, once

Can you find the hidden safety words in the puzzle?



Take completed activity sheet to a restaurant manager for a Fire Prevention Achievement Award.



Rover
Adventure
Play it Safe
Sit to Eat
Code Red
Flashlights
Ask a Grownup
Home Safety
Escape Plan



the nature of the best signal has been determined. The Research Foundation is currently undertaking additional research on this topic. While this research is ongoing, the study recommended the use of interconnected smoke alarms in bedrooms to provide the maximum potential benefit. The report further stated that proper use and maintenance of smoke alarms is also critical to realizing the benefits of smoke alarms.

The Fire Protection Research Foundation plans, manages and communicates consortium-funded research on a broad range of fire safety issues in collaboration with scientists and laboratories around the world. The Foundation is an affiliate of NFPA. ♦

Fire Dept. Hosts Community Hour

The Chattanooga fire chief and his mayor announced a new initiative called Community Hour designed to reconnect citizens with local fire departments. Signs have been placed in front of all Chattanooga fire stations inviting citizens to visit their neighborhood stations any day of the week between 6 and 7 p.m. Visitors will have a chance to talk with firefighters, order fire reports and get safety information. Visitors can also have their blood pressure tested for free and have firefighters review their fire escape plans. Anyone under age 18 must be accompanied by an adult. ♦

MFIRS V5 Coding

New School Fire Reporting Law & MFIRS

The new school fire reporting law is in effect and when a department receives one of these reports from a local school then the department is obligated to complete and submit an MFIRS report.

If a department responds to a (re-reported) fire at a school and perform common fire ground activities like extinguish, ventilate, search, etc. the MFIRS report should be completed like any other fire incident.

If the first notification that the department receives from the school is one of the new School Fire Reporting forms and sends someone just to investigate, an engine or ladder company, an investigator, an officer, or an inspector, it should be coded as the type of situation that occurred, be it a structure fire, confined structure fire, brush fire, dumpster fire, etc. Use the times that the person(s) investigating left the station, arrived and cleared the scene. Make sure that if it is only an investigation or follow up to the school's faxing of the report, that the MFIRS report field on the Basic Module, Action Taken = 86 - Investigation first and does not have the Action Taken = 11 - extinguish.

If no one from the fire department responds (which defeats the point of the law) just set all 3 - times, Alarm, Arrival & Last Unit Cleared to the same time - code it as the type of fire reported by the school and the Action Taken would be 82 - Notify other agencies (that would be DFS).

Building Status Vacant vs. Non-Vacant

There seems to be some confusion as to what this field and its codes represent. The Building Status field defines the operational status of the building involved in the fire. Two of

the codes for this field are: Vacant & Secured and Vacant & Unsecured. A Vacant building is one that is not occupied at any time, not just at the time of the fire. It is usually an abandoned building or a building that does not have any occupants or businesses residing in it.

It does not include buildings such as storage units, and motor vehicle garages, or businesses after business hours with no one there. The code Occupied & Operating should be used for these scenarios. The code Idle not Routinely Used should be used for seasonal properties and those that are used on a 'somewhat' regular basis (e.g. Snack Stands or ticket booths at playgrounds or athletic fields) when they are not occupied and operating.

'New' Critical Errors

There are some new 'Critical' errors with the latest release of MFIRS v5. Any 'Critical' error in an incident will not allow that incident to be saved in the state database and has to be corrected and the entire incident resubmitted.

The new 'Critical' errors are:

1. The field Factors Contributing to Ignition on the Fire Module cannot be blank for those fires that require a Fire Module.
2. The field Human Factors Contributing to Ignition on the Fire Module cannot be blank for those fires that require a Fire Module.
3. A confined fire (Incident Type 113 - 118) may not have a Total Loss Exceeding \$5,000. If it does, then the Incident Type should be changed to 111 - Structure Fire and the Fire and Structure Fire Modules must be completed.
4. If Detectors Alert Occupants is checked off in the Detector field

on the Basic Module (fires only), then the Presence of Detectors field on the Structure Fire Module must be coded as 1 - Present, and the Detector Operation field must be coded as 2 - Detector operated.

2006 Fire Data Analysis

Each fire chief should have received his or her 2006 local County Profile. If you have not received this, please contact the Fire Data Unit at (978) 567-3380 for additional copies. We anticipate the 2005 Annual Report of the Massachusetts Fire Incident Reporting System to be available for distribution in October.

2006 Fire Data - Mid-Year Quality Control & Feedback Reports

Feedback and quality control reports based on the MFIRS data fire department submitted from January through June 2006 were recently sent to each local fire chief that were submitted to our office on or before August 22, 2006. If you have any questions please contact Derryl Dion at (978) 567-3382.

The statistical feedback reports include 2006 Incident Submission by Month and 2006 Fires & Arson Fires by Incident Type.

The quality control reports include:

- 2006 Incidents Returned to Department Corrected Forms Not Received by DFS,
- 2006 Incidents Missing the Arson/Juvenile Firesetters Module,
- 2006 Error Validation Report, 2006 Fires Under Investigation,
- 2006 Structure Fires With Incorrect or No Property Use,
- Electrical Fires with No Equipment Involved,
- 2006 Civilian Fire Casualty Modules with Missing Data for Any Fields,

continued on page 21

- 2006 Fire Service Casualty Modules with Missing Data for Any Fields.

Estimated Dollar Loss

When a fire occurs, something is usually damaged or destroyed. This field tracks the rough estimation of the loss in terms of the cost of replacing the damaged property and/or contents. This estimation includes the amount of dollar loss caused by fire, water, smoke and overhaul.

The key term here is estimate. Many departments are leaving this field blank or defaulting it to zero or none. In some cases such as a confined stove top fire where the pot or pan is not damaged, this is the correct way to complete the report. However in the majority of incidents such as a room and contents fire, an involved structure fire, a motor vehicle fire even if the structure or vehicle was abandoned, an estimate or rough guess must be made as to the monetary value of the property at the time of the fire. Even in the case of outside fires such as a mailbox fire or a cultivated vegetation or crop fire, damage exists and a guess at the replacement value is required. There is no minimum limit for this requirement.

As for guidelines as to how to estimate the loss:

1. For structure fires, use the assessed value of the property or the insurance's replacement cost value of the damages.
2. For motor vehicle fires, use the Kelly Blue Book value. This information is available on-line at www.kbb.com.
3. For anything else you may use the pricing of similar items, such as appliances, mailboxes or furniture; the owner's estimation; or the best logical guess to determine the dollar amount.

Remember it is only an estimate for statistical purposes that are used to illustrate the magnitude of the fire

problem in not only the community but also the Commonwealth and the nation. It has no bearing on the insurance adjustment (if any).

Need for Updated Reports

Departments need to submit updated MFIRS reports once investigators have completed their investigations. Whether the department's SOG's allow the fire investigator, the chief, deputy chief, or officer in command, to do this, the MFIRS report needs to be updated and then resubmitted (with the next regular submission) when anything new is discovered or an investigation is completed. This needs to be done even if the fire investigators are using another system other than MFIRS for their investigative reports. This is especially true for fatal or large loss fires.

Fatal or Large Loss Fires

If there is a fire or explosion with a fatality or large loss (>\$1,000,000), please forward a paper copy of the MFIRS report with a completed Remarks section to Derryl Dion within two business days. The report should include the Basic, Fire, Civilian Fire &/or Fire Service Casualty Module(s), and Structure Fire Module (needed for all structure fires). This most likely will be a preliminary report and the complete report can be filed at a later date unless otherwise noted. Every effort should be taken to make sure that these reports are as complete as they can be given all of the information available at the end of your investigation. FIU reports are separate from your MFIRS reports, and using the team concept of investigation, both reports should reflect the same conclusions.

Training

If a department needs more training on MFIRS v5 and can guarantee 15 students, please contact DFS to set up an MFIRS v5 class. It is a 4-hour MFA class that comes with 4 OEMS

credits. Enrollment must be open to other departments.

Upcoming MFIRS Classes

Thursday, 10/26/06 @ MFA in Stow, MA from 09:00 – 13:00. Course # 200000613 Session A. Please use standard MFA registration forms and procedures.

Wednesday, 11/8/06 @ Ashby F.D. in Ashby, MA from 18:30 – 21:30. Course # 200000613 Session B. Please use standard MFA registration forms and procedures.

Thursday, 4/5/07 MFA in Stow, MA from 09:00 – 13:00. Course # 200000613 Session A. Please use standard MFA registration forms and procedures.

Electronic Reporting

The e-mail address to send your electronic MFIRS reports to is: MFIRS.Report@state.ma.us. One or two days after your first submission via e-mail please call Derryl Dion at (978) 567-3382 to confirm its receipt. Departments that are reporting electronically should be submitting their incidents on a monthly basis. If a department is having trouble with its computer systems, that department should notify the Fire Data unit as soon as possible; and if the problem persists paper copies should be forwarded to DFS so they can be entered into the system here by hand.

Assistance

Please contact Derryl Dion, Research Analyst/MFIRS Manager at (978) 567-3382 or Derryl. Dion@state.ma.us with any questions regarding MFIRS or to conduct fire data or histories research. ♦

Licensing Exams

Licenses

The Office of the State Fire Marshal issues licenses to people and companies engaged in fireworks, blasting, explosives, cannon and mortar firing, special effects, special hazard systems and portable fire extinguishers. Information on applications and exam dates to obtain new licenses

or to renew existing licenses may be obtained by calling (978) 567-3700. Examinations for licenses are held quarterly. Filing deadlines, exam locations, dates and times can be found online at: http://www.mass.gov/dfs/osfm/license_exams.htm. ♦

All licensing exams will be given at the Department of Fire Services, Stow campus, starting at 9 a.m. Arrangements may be made to take the scheduled exams on the same dates, at the same times at the western Massachusetts office of the Department of Fire Services, One Prince Street, Northampton.

2006 Exam Schedule

Examination	Deadline Date	Examination Date	Location
Special Effects	November 6 (Monday)	November 16 (Thursday)	
Fire Extinguishers	October 9 (Monday)	October 19 (Thursday)	DFS Stow Auditorium

Status Report of Compliance and Enforcement Actions

The following is a status report of recent compliance and enforcement actions taken by the Office of the State Fire Marshal against individuals or companies for violations of MGL Chap. 148 and 527 CMR. The status of the action is provided and notation is made regarding the effective date of the action. While other

actions may be pending, only those individuals or companies who have had administrative hearings with decisions rendered will be documented in this space.

Should there be any question regarding the status of any license or certificate, please call the Office of

the State Fire Marshal at any time for verification. The Code Compliance and Enforcement Unit or Technical Services can be reached at either (978) 567-3300 or in western Mass. (413) 587-3181. ♦

Compliance and Enforcement Actions By The Department of Fire Services

Name	Action Taken	Terms	Ends
Blasting Certificate of Competency			
Brian D. Keefe, Jr.	Suspension	6-month suspension effective 6/27/2006, with 30 days to serve	12/27/06
Bruce Eaton	Suspension	1-year suspension effective 8/15/2006, 90 days to serve.	8/15/07
Fireworks Certificate of Competency			
John Ruggieri	Suspension and retest	2-year suspension effective 7/25/2006, 1 year to serve	7/27/08
Fire Equipment Certificate of Competency			
James Tecce	Permanant Revocation	Prohibited from ever again holding a business reg. of any kind from DFS	